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infallibility of the Vedas. Dayananda, who was a remarkable Vedic scholar, rejected modern accretions of Hinduism, idolatry, caste regulations; he taught the worship of a supreme God by Vedic ritual and also the doctrine of transmigration of souls. The faithful contribute to the funds of the society one-hundredth part of their income at least. They have carried on an active propaganda against Mohammedanism, Christianity, and popular Hinduism. They numbered 243,000 in 1911, and were largely found among the educated classes. The Arya Samaj maintains two colleges and a number of schools and philanthropic institutions. It has been accused of disloyalty toward the British government. Mr. Lajpat Rai himself was deported for six months on such a suspicion. This book attempts to show how ill-founded the accusation was. It does not betray the bitter hostility to the Christian religion which is found in too many Hindu publications.

**Superintendents' Edition, Bible Stories and Poems, Bible in School Plans of Many Lands.**

By Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, Ph.D. Washington, D.C.: Bible Selections Commission, 1914. 542 pages. Illustrated. \$0.50.

This volume is issued by the Union Bible Selections Commission, composed of some seventy-five leading educators and divines, representing all communions, including Hebrews and Roman Catholics. It is an attempt to produce a body of Bible selections for reading in the public schools that will be acceptable alike to Protestants, Romanists, and Jews. The selections are confined to the Old Testament. Their order is in the historical sequence of the events described, beginning with an "Overture of Nature Lessons on Creation," a series of "Beginnings," and following the careers of the patriarchs and the course of Jewish history, closing with the minor prophets. Seventy-five Tissot pictures, nine of which are in colors, illustrate the text.

No attempt is made at grading this biblical material for the different ages of pupils. The

selections are certainly too long in most cases for use in the grammar grades of the public schools. Here, as with the Bible itself, the teacher will have to make his selections of material suited to the interests of his pupils. It seems that emphasis is put on the selection of passages appealing to adult appreciation, rather than to the simpler narratives and biographies. Much material that by common consent would be considered outside the interests of children is included.

The religious educator will find the volume chiefly valuable on account of the prefatory work of 191 pages entitled "Bible in School Plans of Many Lands." Here are included practically all the courses for Bible-study in the schools of various lands and states, and much other useful material of a similar nature. The "Bible Stories" are issued separately at thirty-five cents, and form a cheap and convenient "expurgated" Old Testament. The half-tone illustrations would add greater attractiveness to the book were they not made from old cuts that have blurred badly in the printing. This defect does not apply to the nine color plates in the volume.

**The Oratory and Poetry of the Bible.** By Ferdinand S. Schenck. New York: George Doran Co., 1915. \$1.25 net.

Dr. Schenck gives us in this book a very interesting scheme for the study of the Bible in high schools and colleges. The message of the prophets and apostles is reported in the form of letters written by their hearers. Some of the theories of Dr. Schenck are very ingenious; for instance, his story of the unhappy marriage of Hosea. Dr. Schenck does not accept the results of modern criticism and this is a serious flaw from our point of view. There are one or two smaller flaws; for instance, the use of the mongrel name Istaroch as that of a Chaldean diviner (p. 96); it would have been better to take one of the numerous names found in the contracts and letters of that period. The statement that Ezekiel's home was 200 miles north of Babylon (p. 110) could scarcely be proved.